

IN THE DRAWINGS

In the office action Figures 3, 4A, and 7 are objected to for certain informalities regarding the numbering of elements in the drawings. These figures have been amended to correct these informalities and place the figures in conformance with the specification. Each new sheet includes the heading "REPLACEMENT SHEET." No new matter is added by these amendments.

REMARKS

Claims 21-26, 38-48, 50-56, 68, and 80-86 are pending in this application with claims 21, 38-41, 43, 48, 50, 54, 68, and 80-86 amended and claims 1-20, 27-37, 49, 57-67, 69-79, and 87-91 cancelled herein. No new matter has been added by these amendments. Applicant reserves the right to file one or more divisional applications based in whole or in part of claims cancelled herein. The Examiner is thanked for indicating that claims 21, 38, 50-53, 56, 58, 68, and 80-86 contain allowable subject matter.

In the office action, Figs. 3, 4A and 7 are objected to for certain informalities. New Figs. 3, 4A, and 7 are submitted herewith bearing the legend REPLACEMENT SHEET which address the issues raised in the office action. No new matter is added by these amendments. Withdrawal of the objection is requested.

The specification is objected to for an informality on page 11, at about line 12, wherein the DM is mislabeled "330" when it should properly be labeled "360." The specification has been amended herein to address this shortcoming. No new matter is added by this amendment. Withdrawal of the objection is requested.

Claims 21-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as indefinite due to an insufficient antecedent basis issue. Claim 21 has been amended and this feature has been addressed by the amendment.

Claims 62-91 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as directed to unpatentable subject matter. Claims 68, and 80 have been amended and other claims cancelled to address this issue. Withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

Claims 1-20, 27-37, 39-49, 54, 55, 57-67, 69-79, and 87-91 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 as anticipated or unpatentable over one or more of U.S. Published Patent

Application No. 2003/0131182 to Kumar, U.S. Patent Published Patent Application No.

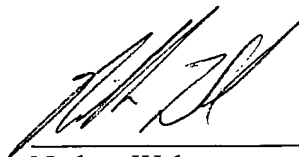
2003/0149848 to Ibrahim, "iSCSI packet ordering," "RAID," and "iSCSI Q&A."

In response to these rejections, and in an effort to further prosecution, claims 21, 38, 50, 68, and 80 have been placed in independent form. Thus, as these claims have been indicated to contain allowable subject matter, it is submitted that they now patentably distinguish over the relied upon portions of the cited prior art references and are allowable. Claims 22-26, 39-48, 51-56, and 81-86 depend from one of these allowable base claims and are allowable therewith. The other claims rejected in the office action have been cancelled, rendering those rejections moot. Withdrawal of the rejections to the claims, as amended herein, is respectfully requested.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



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